



Webinar: Space collaboration between the EU & Canada

Opening remarks :

- Mike Mueller, President and CEO at AIAC
- Olivier Lemaitre, Secretary General at Eurospace

Discussion :

- (Mod.) Aaron Spaans, Chair of the Space Committee at AIAC
- Wade Larson, Senior Vice-President at EarthDaily Analytics
 - Desmond Power, Vice-President at C-Core
 - Miguel Angel Garcia Primo, CEO at Hisdesat
 - Chris Progue, CEO at Thales Canada
 - Daniel Schulten, Director at Airbus

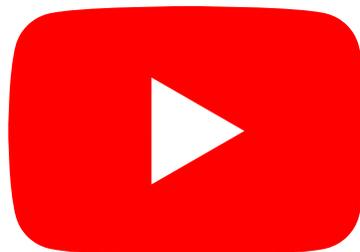
Space-enabled technologies now play a critical role in our daily lives — supporting our modern communication networks, contributing to a sustainable use of natural resources and the protection of our environment, providing safety, security and a high quality of life, responding to disasters and crises, or understanding and combating climate change.

Canada and the European Union have been collaborating in the space sector since the early 1970s. Formal cooperation began in 1979 with the signing of the first Cooperation Agreement between the European Space Agency (ESA) and the Canadian Space Agency, renewed five times since then (1984, 1989, 2000, 2012 and 2019). Decades of political and industrial cooperation around space projects such as Copernicus (Europe's Earth observation system), Galileo (satellite navigation and geo-positioning system) or Telesat's lightspeed satellite constellation, have led to the development of a strong space sector on both sides of the Atlantic.

Still, the international space context has been changing fast. Global competition is increasing and space activities are becoming more and more commercial with greater private sector involvement. Major technological shifts, such as digitalisation, miniaturisation, or artificial intelligence are disrupting traditional business models in the space sector, reducing the cost of accessing and using space.

This rapid and constant transformation calls for new approaches to funding and supporting space ventures, and needs to be reflected in the EU-Canada cooperation framework in space. Maintaining the structures for a free and open exchange of ideas and an unfettered access to each other's market is paramount. In an increasingly commercially-driven market, rebalancing public investments to support the development of downstream services will be equally important. And as the public sector moves from a customer to an enabler role, it will be important that the regulatory aspects keep pace with the speed of the programs and commercial endeavors.

To dig deeper into these issues, you can listen again to our panel discussion organized on May 3, 2022 here



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